

2nd Grade Remote learning 2020-2021

Unit 4 – Session 21 – The Pascal Mystery

Parents,

This week is about the Pascal Mystery. Here is some vocabulary that may help you. This is not for your child but to help you as you explain this session to them.

- Memorial Acclamation-A prayer during Mass, in which we acclaim the Paschal Mystery.
- Mystery- From the Greek word mysterion, mystery originally meant the same thing as sacrament: a visible sign of God's grace.
- New Covenant-The new and everlasting covenant won for us by Christ's Paschal Mystery. In this covenant all of God's promises are fulfilled and our sins can be forgiven.
- Paschal-Of or having to do with the Passover, Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection are the Passover of the New Covenant.
- Paschal Mystery-Jesus' Passion, Death, Resurrection and Ascension which saved us from sin and made it possible for us to be sons and daughters of God.
- Sacrament-A sign of God's grace that gives the grace that it signifies. In the early Church, the words sacrament and mystery were used to mean the same thing.

The students should learn

- The Paschal Mystery is Christ's work of redemption, through His Passion, Death, and Resurrection, which saved us from sin and death for new life as sons and daughters of God.
- At every Mass we proclaim the Paschal Mystery in a prayer called the Memorial Acclamation.

Here is what you need to do this week.

- Pascal Mystery
 - As you explain the following, have your child work on page 181 in their book answering the questions as you explain the Pascal Mystery.
 - Explain that endings and new beginnings are an important part of our Catholic Faith. We have been learning about Jesus' Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension. We call this series of events the Paschal Mystery. Through these events Jesus saved us from sin and death and brought about a new and everlasting covenant between God and man.
 - Ask your child what the word mystery means.
 - Write the word Paschal Mystery and explain that we often call Jesus' Passion Death and Resurrection the Paschal Mystery. Ask why we might call these things a mystery. Explain that Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection are NOT a problem to be solved or something that is unknown. In fact, we know about these things and the problem has already been solved.
 - Write the word Sacrament. Ask what the word means. (A Sacrament is a sign of grace that gives us God's divine life.) Explain that when Jesus lived on earth and when the New Testament was being written, the word for mystery, mysterion, meant something different from what we think of today. In fact, it had the same meaning as Sacrament. A visible sign of God's divine life.
 - Write the word Paschal and ask if your child knows what it means. Paschal means "Passover" and it refers to both the original Passover of the Israelites in Egypt and the Passover of the New Covenant in Christ. Explain that the original Passover refers to the freeing of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. God sent Moses to free them. God sent 10 plagues upon Egypt, the last of which was the death of the firstborn in Egypt. To spare the firstborn of the Israelites, God gave the Israelites instructions, through Moses, to sacrifice a year-old unblemished lamb, spread its blood over their doorposts that night, and roast and eat its flesh in a sacred meal that consisted of unleavened bread and wine. If they followed the

2nd Grade Remote learning 2020-2021

instructions of this sacrifice their homes would be passed over that night and the life of their firstborn spared.

- The Passover of the New Covenant refers to how God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to free us, not from physical slavery (as with the Israelites in Egypt), but from sin and death. As we have already learned, Jesus gave His life for us on the Cross. Through His Death, He paid the price for our sins that we could not, freeing us from sin and death and inviting us to be sons and daughters of God.
- Jesus died on the cross for us. From his death, came new life. He rose from the dead. His resurrection brought us into new life as well. We can put away our old lives of sin and take up new life in Christ as sons and daughters of God, followers of Christs who are seeking holiness.
- Work with them through the Pascal Mystery activities online including the word search.
- Resurrection
 - Explain that Jesus' Resurrection from the dead had a huge impact on the lives of those who knew Him. Their lives were never the same again. After Jesus' Resurrection, the Apostles went out to all the world and told everyone they met about Jesus, His teachings, and His victory over sin and death. In our everyday lives we come in contact with sin, suffering, and death of various kinds, but we also encounter resurrection. When we sin, we can repent and be forgiven. Where there's suffering there's healing, comforting and love. Where there's death, there's new life (for example, when a school year ends, a new one begins a few months later; when we move away from one house or city, we move to a new one; when we lose a friend, we have the opportunity to make new ones; and so forth.) In this way we experience the Paschal Mystery in our everyday lives. Christ's Resurrection teaches us that our life is not only sin, suffering, and death. There is a greater new life beyond these!
 - Talk about a time in your family life when your family experienced a resurrection (a time after some sin, suffering or death when there was something new). Example of death could be ending of a school year, moving to a new house or city, losing a friend...
- Mystery of Faith
 - Explain that we participate in Christ's savings sacrifice when we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus in the Eucharist at Mass. In every Mass, we proclaim the Paschal Mystery in a prayer called the Memorial Acclamation. During the Liturgy of the Eucharist, after the priest has spoken the words of Consecration to transform the bread and wine in the Body and Blood of our Lord, the priest invites the congregation to pray together the "Mystery of Faith". Then together as a Church, we then acclaim this mystery by saying one of the three forms of the Memorial Acclamation.
 - We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.
 - When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.
 - Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.
 - Complete the online activities with your child.
 - For the poster activity, have your child create a poster that illustrates the meaning of the Memorial Acclamation and the Paschal Mystery.